

PHARMACEUTICAL APPLICATION OF 15- OR 16-SUBSTITUTED TESTOSTERONE ANALOGUES

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The invention relates to pharmaceutical dosage units for oral, transmucosal or transdermal administration containing 15- or 16-substituted testosterone analogues, as well as to therapeutic methods that employ these testosterone analogues. More particularly, the invention is concerned with such pharmaceutical dosage units containing at least 10 μg of an androgenic steroid selected from the group consisting of 15-hydroxytestosterones, 16-hydroxytestosterones, precursors thereof and mixtures of these hydroxytestosterones and/or their precursors; and a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient. The term "15-hydroxytestosterones" encompasses both 15 α -hydroxytestosterone (15 α , 17 β -dihydroxy-4-androsten-3-one) and 15 β -hydroxytestosterone (15 β , 17 β -dihydroxy-4-androsten-3-one). Similarly, the term "16-hydroxytestosterones" encompasses both 16 α -hydroxytestosterone (16 α , 17 β -dihydroxy-4-androsten-3-one) and 16 β -hydroxytestosterone (16 β , 17 β -dihydroxy-4-androsten-3-one). The androgenic steroids according to the invention are advantageously employed in e.g. a method of treating or preventing androgen deficiency or a method of hormonal contraception.